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SUBJECT 1. Importation of Arms into Colombia
2. Possible Replacement of Minister of Government

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**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

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Importation of Arms into Colombia

1. The Conservative Party of Colombia is alarmed over reports it has received indicating that the Liberal Party is engaged in a large-scale clandestine importation of arms. A member of the Conservative Party who works in the Barranquilla customs office informed the Party that arms are entering the country in case lots. Because of this alarming report, the Conservative Party is making overtures to Spain and the Dominican Republic in an endeavor to purchase arms from them.

Possible Replacement of Minister of Government

2. Guillermo Leon Valencia, President of the Conservative Party National Directorate, has stated that President Mariano Ospina Perez asked him to accept the position of Minister of Government in the event that Dario Echandia should leave the Government. Valencia added that both the President and the Party Directorate preferred to have Echandia remain in the Cabinet, but that he might insist upon leaving. Valencia is seriously considering the President's request because the post of Minister of Government will be an important one during the next elections, when the Ministry will supervise the implementation of the new electoral law and the issuance of new cédulas.

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